

Applicants : Hermann Franzen and Joachim Kröll
For : LIFTING DEVICE FOR CONTAINERS
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The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-5.

Please add claims 6-13 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Lifting~~A lifting device (2) for containers (18), especially ISO containers (18) which can be handled by means of container handling equipment (1), with said lifting device comprising:
 - at least one hydraulic cylinder (4) arranged on a support frame (3) with a piston and a piston rod (5), whose
 - at least two horizontal guiding cross-bars spaced apart from each other, wherein lengthwise displacement of said piston rod is transformed into a synchronous upward and downward movement ~~of at least two horizontal guiding cross-bars (10a, 10b), spaced apart from each other, which are~~said horizontal guiding cross-bars connected to a load-receiving means ~~device~~ for the container (18), ~~the~~said horizontal guiding cross-bars (10a, 10b) being guided on vertical beams of the support frame (3) at both ends, for the lifting and lowering of the container (18),
 - ~~characterized in that~~
 - ~~the~~ wherein transformation of the lengthwise displacement of said piston rod into the upward and downward movement is accomplished by ~~means of~~ at least one angle levers (7) ~~lever~~ pivoted on ~~the~~said support frame (3), with ~~said~~ at least one angle lever comprising two lever arms (6, 8) each, one lever arm (6) ~~of one of the angle levers (7) of said lever arms~~ being connected to ~~a~~said piston rod (5) and the other lever arm (8) ~~of this angle lever (7) of said lever arms~~ being connected to ~~a~~one of said guiding ~~cross-bar (10a, 10b)~~ cross-bars.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~Lifting~~The lifting device per ~~Claim~~claim 1 ~~characterized in that the~~ lever arm (6) of an angle lever (7), wherein said one of said lever arms connected to ~~the~~said piston rod (5), is linked by ~~means of~~ a rod-shaped coupling element (12) to a lever arm (13) of another angle lever (14), whose other lever arm (15) is connected to the other one of said

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guiding cross-bar ~~(10a, 10b)~~ cross-bars, such that ~~the respective traction means (16)~~ devices suspended from said guiding cross-bars move synchronously to each other in the vertical direction.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Lifting~~ The lifting device per Claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that the wherein each of said guiding cross-bars (10a, 10b) are each is connected by means of a coupling rod ~~(9a, 9b)~~ to one of said lever arm (8, 15) arms.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Lifting~~ The lifting device according to one of Claims 1 to per claim 3, eharacterized in that the wherein each of said guiding cross-bars (10a, 10b) are each is connected by means of a coupling rod ~~(9a, 9b)~~ to one of said lever arm (8, 15) arms on either side of the middle of the cross-bar.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Lifting~~ The lifting device according to one of Claims 1 to per claim 4, eharacterized in that the wherein said load-receiving means device for the container ~~(18)~~ is suspended in the form of a spreader ~~(17)~~ from the said guiding cross-bars (10a, 10b) via traction means (16) devices.

6. (New) The lifting device per claim 1, wherein each of said guiding cross-bars is connected by a coupling rod to one of said lever arms.

7. (New) The lifting device per claim 6, wherein each of said guiding cross-bars is connected by a coupling rod to one of said lever arms on either side of the middle of the cross-bar.

8. (New) The lifting device per claim 7, wherein said load-receiving device for the container is suspended in the form of a spreader from said guiding cross-bars via traction devices.

9. (New) The lifting device per claim 2, wherein each of said guiding cross-bars is connected by a coupling rod to one of said lever arms on either side of the middle of the cross-bar.

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10. (New) The lifting device per claim 9, wherein said load-receiving device for the container is suspended in the form of a spreader from said guiding cross-bars via traction devices.

11. (New) The lifting device per claim 1, wherein said load-receiving device for the container is suspended in the form of a spreader from said guiding cross-bars via traction devices.

12. (New) The lifting device per claim 2, wherein said load-receiving device for the container is suspended in the form of a spreader from said guiding cross-bars via traction devices.

13. (New) The lifting device per claim 3, wherein said load-receiving device for the container is suspended in the form of a spreader from said guiding cross-bars via traction devices.